

**WAG ON INN RESCUE**  
**Foster Guidelines**  
**2021**

**THANK YOU** for fostering for Wag On Inn Rescue! Fostering saves lives and is an essential part of the rescue process. Many of the dogs and cats and small critters we rescue are at a high risk for euthanasia, and thanks to you they will find loving forever homes.

**OUR HISTORY**

Wag On Inn Rescue (WOI) originated in 1998 when founders Adrienne Gnassi and Kathy Miles realized there was an overwhelming need to place homeless pets to save them from euthanasia. They purchased a kennel and formed Wag On Inn Rescue, a New Jersey 501(c)3, dedicated to saving homeless dogs and cats. Subsequently, WOI decided to transition to a foster-based rescue program, which enabled animals to adjust more quickly and be evaluated in a home setting. We continue to be a 100% volunteer-based organization and have grown to approximately 100 active volunteers and foster families located predominately in Monmouth County and other areas of Central New Jersey. The majority of our dogs and cats are kept in private foster homes locally until they are adopted. All of our animals receive all the love, care and medical treatment they need until they find their forever home.

**OUR MISSION**

We are a no-kill, non-profit, foster-based animal rescue with a mission of finding permanent loving homes for abandoned cats and dogs of all breeds, sizes and ages, guinea pigs and bunnies. Our goals include promoting responsible pet ownership by ensuring all animals are spayed/neutered, microchipped and brought up to date on vaccines prior to adoption or soon after based on their age and medical needs. Volunteers strive to find the best home possible for each animal by assessing their behavior and matching them with thoroughly screened adopters.

**Mailing address**

We do not have a physical address. Our PO Box should be used to mail all adoption contracts, medical paperwork, expense reimbursements, donations, etc.

**Wag On Inn Rescue**  
PO Box 221  
Oakhurst, NJ 07755

**Website**

All dogs in need of foster homes are on our website on the "Needs a Foster" page. Potential adopters can find photos, videos and a description of our adoptable animals on the Dogs, Cats or Small Critters pages.

<https://WagOnInn.RescueGroups.org/>

**Facebook Group and Instagram**

All dogs in need of fosters are posted on Facebook and Instagram. We encourage foster parents to post photos and videos of their foster dogs!

Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/82980071405/?ref=share>

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Below are some key contacts who can help you. Please be aware that the entire team is made up of dedicated volunteers who do this in addition to their responsibilities with work, family, etc. We all want you to have a positive experience fostering, so please do not hesitate to contact one of us; we will get back to you within a reasonable period of time.

Dog Foster Coordinator/ Transport Coordinator	Amanda Jagger	732 300-6175	<a href="mailto:amandajagger13@gmail.com">amandajagger13@gmail.com</a>
Dog Foster Support Team/ Medical Coordination – Foster or medical questions	Wendy Hummel Liza Grier Shannon Edly Michele Wise	732 618-4285 917-859-8483 732-443-7617 732-713-5107	<a href="mailto:wshummel@gmail.com">wshummel@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Liza.Grier@gmail.com">Liza.Grier@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Shannonedly@gmail.com">Shannonedly@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:mwcatsndogs@aol.com">mwcatsndogs@aol.com</a>
Cat Foster Coordinator & Support	Joann Maros	732-963-7236	<a href="mailto:joanne.maros@gmail.com">joanne.maros@gmail.com</a>
Small Critter Coordinator & Support	Taylor Kuhne	732-575-0876	<a href="mailto:taylor.kuhne97@gmail.com">taylor.kuhne97@gmail.com</a>
Expense Reimbursement, Fundraising, Treasurer, food for fosters	Michele Wise	732-713-5107	<a href="mailto:mwcatsndogs@aol.com">mwcatsndogs@aol.com</a>
Placement Team – This group is your primary contact when it comes to placement of a foster dog in a foster home or an adoptive dog in an adoptive home.	Amanda Jagger Katie Elko Nicole Livingston	732-300-6175 732-513-3541 973-953-8837	<a href="mailto:Amandajagger13@gmail.com">Amandajagger13@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Katie.Elko@gmail.com">Katie.Elko@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Nlivingstonwoi@yahoo.com">Nlivingstonwoi@yahoo.com</a>
Applications Team – This is our primary team reviewing applications.	Michele Wise Nicole Livingston Kaitlin Bailey Joann Maros Lia Grasso-Pulaski Donna Jagger	732-713-5107 973-953-8837 908-601-8479 732-963-7236 732-600-5640 732-207-5482	<a href="mailto:mwcatsndogs@aol.com">mwcatsndogs@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:nlivingstonwoi@yahoo.com">nlivingstonwoi@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:Kaitlinbriannas@gmail.com">Kaitlinbriannas@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:joanne.maros@gmail.com">joanne.maros@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:lcg.grasso@gmail.com">lcg.grasso@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Mssamadams@aol.com">Mssamadams@aol.com</a>
Heartworm Coordinator and adopter follow up	Liza Grier Charlene Gomes	917-859-8483 732-861-3533	<a href="mailto:Liza.grier@gmail.com">Liza.grier@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:charlenego@msn.com">charlenego@msn.com</a>
WOI Founder/Cat Care Lead - PetCo	Adrienne Gnassi	732-395-3400	<a href="mailto:Adrienne.wagoninn@gmail.com">Adrienne.wagoninn@gmail.com</a>

Social Media Coordinator and Adopter Support	Jeanne Dispenza	347-885-0045	<a href="mailto:Jeannedwoi@gmail.com">Jeannedwoi@gmail.com</a>
Website Content Coordinator	Debbie Elsinger	732-309-6220	<a href="mailto:delsingerwoifoster@gmail.com">delsingerwoifoster@gmail.com</a>
Adoption Event Coordinator	Melissa Ylagan	908-420-4979	<a href="mailto:mzimmerman20@comcast.net">mzimmerman20@comcast.net</a>
Spay & Neuter Coordinator	Debbie Elsinger	732-309-6220	<a href="mailto:delsingerwoifoster@gmail.com">delsingerwoifoster@gmail.com</a>
Founder, Main contact for all general correspondence and questions	Kathy Miles	732-996-8934	<a href="mailto:wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com">wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com</a>
Training & Behavior Issues	Hillary Heiblum	732-610-1082	<a href="mailto:hilary.christman@gmail.com">hilary.christman@gmail.com</a>
	Lisa Christman	908-770-8496	<a href="mailto:Dwndog@aol.com">Dwndog@aol.com</a>
Microchip Registration	Kristi Ellsworth	201-988-1797	<a href="mailto:krisells@aol.com">krisells@aol.com</a>
Thank you notes	Arlene Eastwood	917-287-4478	<a href="mailto:ameastwood@optimum.net">ameastwood@optimum.net</a>

We are always looking for new ways to raise funds and promote Wag On Inn Rescue. If you are aware of any grant or corporate funding opportunities, please reach out to our Grant Coordinator. If you have ideas for fundraising events, please contact our Fundraising Events Team.

Fundraising Events Team	Michele Wise	732-713-5107	<a href="mailto:mwcatsndogs@aol.com">mwcatsndogs@aol.com</a>
	Arlene Eastwood	917-287-4478	<a href="mailto:ameastwood@optimum.net">ameastwood@optimum.net</a>
Grant Coordinator	Kristi Ellsworth	201-988-1797	<a href="mailto:krisells@aol.com">krisells@aol.com</a>

## BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT

Fostering is a tremendously rewarding experience, but it takes some time and patience. Here are some guidelines meant to help you in this important and rewarding role.

You are likely already approved to foster, but if not, you first need to submit an application which can be found on our website <https://wagoninn.rescuegroups.org/forms/>. Once completed, it will be reviewed by the Applications Team and a home visit will be scheduled to make sure your home environment is safe for a foster animal. Once you are an approved foster parent, keep an eye on our website (Needs a foster page) and Facebook for dogs in need of a foster home that you feel will match your household and lifestyle.

## FOSTER RESPONSIBILITIES

All dogs need food, water and shelter in a safe, clean and caring environment. Other responsibilities of a foster parent are to:

- Keep a Wag On Inn tag on your foster
- Provide exercise and socialization, as appropriate
- Monitor any medical and/or behavioral problems and keep track of medical needs (i.e. vaccines, etc.)
- Ensure dogs are given heartworm prevention monthly! And flea/tick prevention as needed
- Transport your foster to/from vet appointments and adoption events as necessary
- Respond to email inquiries regarding your foster dog
- Promote your foster by creating/updating their bio and taking pictures and videos and posting to Facebook and emailing Debbie and/or Jeanne to update the website description and photos and social media
- Attend adoption events when possible. Events are generally offered most weekends and are an important means to meet potential adopters.

- Conduct the virtual meet and greet/home check and meet with approved adopters in person once you receive an approved application.
- We prefer that fosters keep their animals for 7-10 days to monitor health and behavior, especially when it comes to puppies or kittens. If the animal goes to the adopter before the 10 days are up, the foster must explain this is a foster-to-adopt trial and the foster must check in daily to ensure the pet is doing well in the new home. The foster should hold the adoption contract and fee for the full 10 days to make sure the adoption is working out well. If a health concern is raised, foster should contact the foster support team to schedule an appointment for the animal.

If you have other animals in your home, please consider the following before deciding to foster:

- How will they react to a new dog in the home?
- Are they spayed/neutered? Some foster dogs will not be spayed/neutered upon arrival.
- Do any of them have health issues that might make them more susceptible to disease or injury?
- Are they up to date on all vaccines? We recommend that you follow your vet's recommendations regarding the addition of a foster dog to your home.
- If you are interested in fostering puppies, please review the Puppy Instructions as they have additional needs depending on their age.

## SUPPLIES NEEDED

There are some basic care items that you will need to acquire before you begin fostering. If you currently have pets, you may already have some of these items at home. We recommend you have the following before bringing home your foster dog:

- Harness – Adult dogs and older puppies will come with a martingale collar. **Please do not remove the martingale collar**, this should be your primary means of controlling the dogs on a leash. You may use a harness to aid in walking a strong dog but we encourage the use of 2 leashes: one to the martingale and one to the harness as harnesses are often not slip proof. Please attach an ID tag. One will be provided typically at transport pickup. Do not use a standard collar as your dog can escape!
- Leash - Dogs must be on a leash at all times when they are outside of a fully-confined yard. We recommend a 4- to 6-foot leash for walks and training. Foster dogs should not be walked on a retractable leash, as they are unsafe for both dogs and the humans attached to the dogs. We encourage fosters and adopters to keep dogs on leash even in a fenced yard at for the first several days. The first 72 hours in a new foster or adoptive home are the hardest for any dog. Many dogs will try to escape or they will simply not come when called until they know you better.
- Food and treats. Any premium brand is fine unless special dietary needs are noted.
- Chew toys and other enrichment items, appropriate to the size and age of your foster dog.
- Crate or travel carrier - A crate can be plastic or wire. The crate should be big enough for the dog to be able to turn around and stand up but not too much bigger as this can allow them to have a “potty space” and a sleeping space which can delay housetraining. (If you don't have a crate, we can usually find one in our Facebook group).
- X-Pen/Baby Gates-Both are a great tool to limit your foster dog's space in the home while still allowing them to observe normal household activities.
- Dog bed or blankets to provide your foster dog with a comfortable place to sleep.

If you need any items such as food please contact Michele Wise. She will coordinate donated food for your foster to be brought to your home. If donated supplies are not available supplies can be ordered and reimbursed. If you choose to donate food or supplies to your foster dogs, you may be able to write the expenses off on your taxes, as we are a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

### **SELECTING YOUR FOSTER ANIMAL:**

Wag On Inn Rescue pulls all animals from other shelters and rescues, primarily in southern states, NJ and Puerto Rico. We also accept owner surrenders once approved by the Board. All dogs in need of a foster home will be posted on our Website and Facebook.

To find your next foster, join our Facebook Group - Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue and look for dogs to be posted. Dogs are also posted on the "Needs a Foster" page of our website [WagOnInn.RescueGroups.org](http://WagOnInn.RescueGroups.org). If there is an animal listed that you would like to foster, email the Foster/Transport Coordinator to let her know.

The list of animals in need of foster is dynamic and changes frequently for many reasons. Some animals don't end up coming if they get adopted in their home shelter or if they're too young or sick to travel, or if any last-minute behavior issues are identified. We'll do the best we can to match you with the animals you would like to foster.

### **OWNER SURRENDERS**

WOI will assist with owner surrenders and at-risk animals listed on Craigs List, Facebook, etc. If at all possible, WOI will work with the owner to ensure vaccinations are up to date before placing the dog in a foster home. In cases of extreme duress or time sensitivity, this may not be possible but Foster Coordinator will work with the owner/foster to ensure the animal is seen by a vet ASAP. If you agree to take an unvaccinated animal, this animal should not interact with other animals or children until the vaccinations are complete and a physical examination has been conducted by a veterinarian. Under no circumstances can unvaccinated animals be transferred to a new foster home or attend adoption events/meet and greets. Animals with no vetting history are a risk for Rabies which carries a 100% mortality rate to humans and animals therefore caution must be exercised when considering placing an animal in a home with no prior veterinary care. All owners must sign an owner surrender form turning the ownership of the animal over to WOI. The owner surrender fee is negotiable depending on the situation.

### **PICKING UP YOUR FOSTER**

The Foster/Transport Coordinator will let you know when your foster is scheduled to arrive. A specific time will be provided the week before; however, sometimes there are unforeseen travel delays. Generally, you are asked to meet the transport at the Grover Cleveland Rest area on the NJ Turnpike just north of exit 11, Please give us advance notice of any scheduling problems you have. If you are unable to pick up your foster dog from transport please notify the Foster/Transport Coordinator immediately.

At the time of pick up you will be given the animal's medical records and any medication that they may be taking. We recommend that you bring the following to pick up your dog:

- Travel Carrier/Crate
- Leash and Martingale collar or harness. NO standard collars as dogs may slip out. NO retractable leashes.
- Blankets/Covers to protect car your car from scratches or accidents

## GUIDELINES FOR TRANSPORT

**SAFETY RULE #1: We try to do two leashes and/or two humans with all adult dogs at all times!** We will have a volunteer accompany foster/adopter and dog to the car (even if you are carrying them) due to the inherent danger unloading dogs next to a 10-lane superhighway. If anyone is observed not using a leash or observing safety protocols, they will be asked to leave without your dog/puppy. This is a matter of life and death if a dog were to get loose, and we take safety very seriously. Dogs/pups must be secured in the car with a seat belt tether or crated so they cannot accidentally slip out of the car.

**SAFETY RULE #2: NO PAWS ON THE GROUND** at the rest stop for puppies 6 months old or less. They cannot be walked at the rest stop. The reason is that there are hundreds of dogs that stop there each day and these dogs may or may not be vaccinated. If picking up a pup, bring a crate and pee pad and wait until you get home or stop somewhere on the way home - not at a rest stop, in a residential area. If you have a long drive home, adults can be safely walked at the rest stop with a minimum of 2 people and 2 leashes at all times. Dogs are going to be nervous and disoriented coming off transport. If your dog is overly nervous, it is best just to pick them up and put them in the car and come back for your paperwork.

### ONCE YOU GET HOME

**FOSTERING:** Please keep in mind that your foster animal has been through a lot and upon arrival they have had a very busy and confusing 24 – 48 hours. They have traveled many hours to get here and they may be stressed, depressed, scared and withdrawn or have a lack of appetite. Give him/her a chance to adjust for a day or two. Kindness, love, patience, and security will go a long way to help your foster adjust to his new life. Feed small meals initially to discourage upset stomachs. Introduce the foster to your animals slowly, either on a leash or separated by a gate. Taking them on a walk together is also a nice way for them to get to know each other.

*Please keep in mind that puppies are not fully protected from canine diseases until they have received their final booster at 16 weeks, so they should not be exposed to areas that are frequented by other, potentially unvaccinated, dogs.*

Often upper respiratory infections don't show up for a few days, and in the first few days, you'll get a better idea of the animal's behavior and what kind of home will be a good match for him/her. **Dogs arriving off transport should not participate in adoption events the same day or weekend of transport.** It is our job to make sure they are welcomed into a loving environment to decompress.

Feel free to bathe your dog unless it was recently spayed/neutered, then we recommend waiting at least 1 week for the incision to heal. Get them used to being brushed and having their ears cleaned and nails trimmed if necessary. It is wonderful if, while you have your foster, you can work on housetraining, walking on a leash, and basic obedience. A well-adjusted, well-behaved dog/cat will be happy and healthy and will be more appealing to a prospective owner.

Things to keep track of:

- ✓ When is next Heartworm preventative due?
- ✓ Are DHPP vaccine boosters due (for puppies or kittens)?
- ✓ When is Rabies due (at 4 months for puppies or kittens)?
- ✓ If spayed or neutered recently, do stitches need to be removed?
- ✓ When is flea/tick preventative due?
- ✓ Is another dose of dewormer due? Puppies and adults should be treated at least 2-3 times about 2 weeks apart to ensure all stages of parasites are killed.

Please add any treatments to their medical paperwork. If you need flea/tick prevention, dewormer, etc. feel free to purchase and submit the receipt to our Treasurer for reimbursement or reach out to the foster support team. Please reach out to the Heartworm Treatment Coordinator for heartworm prevention.

Sometimes we just don't like the names the animals come with. You are welcome to have a nickname for your foster animal, but please make sure that all correspondence and files are under the original name. Otherwise we lose track of who's who! The posting, vet visits, etc. all must be done in the original name.

In some cases, foster animals may be switched to a new foster home for various reasons that are at the discretion of the Board of Directors. If you are having a problem with a particular animal, please let the Placement Team know asap.

**IF YOUR FOSTER ANIMAL GETS LOOSE**, please take the following steps:

- 1) Contact your local police department, and keep contacting them until your animal is found.
- 2) Contact local shelters.
- 3) Contact the Foster Support Team and Foster Coordinator from Wag On Inn.
- 4) Organize friends, family members and neighbors to help you as you search the area on foot and by car.
- 5) Have a photo of your animal with contact numbers to hand out as you search.

### **PROMOTING YOUR FOSTER**

All adoptable animals are posted on our website ([WagOnInn.RescueGroups.org](http://WagOnInn.RescueGroups.org)) so that potential adopters can see who we have. Animals are also posted on Facebook, Petfinder.com and other sites. Since the original photos of the animal may not be all that great, please send the Website Coordinator some good photos and a brief description of your foster animal as soon as possible. The photos should include a close-up head shot, a full body shot, a side shot and a shot while sitting. Videos are also helpful to potential adopters so please send a short video if possible. A 1-2-paragraph bio on your foster animal should include details about your animal that discloses to a prospective owner the traits you think are special. Include your guess as to the breed and age of the dog/cat, whether they are housetrained, crate trained and also include whether you think they need to go to a home with or without other dogs, cats, or without kids, with a yard, etc. EMAIL photos/bios to [our](#) Website Content Coordinator

**Social Media:** Facebook and Instagram are wonderful networking sites for our animals and events; please "Friend" us on our "Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue" Page. We encourage you to post photos and videos of your foster on Facebook. Please contact our Instagram Team to have your foster featured.

**Adoption Events & Outreaches:** Wag On Inn has adoption events and outreaches scheduled several weekends a month. Events will be noted on our website and Facebook. It is very helpful if your foster animal can attend to get exposure. This is also a good time to get someone to take photos/videos if you can't take them. If you know you'll be bringing your dog to an outreach, let the Events Coordinator know and she'll mark that on our website. Take your foster dog places with you – it's good socialization for them, and often friends/neighbors end up adopting our dogs. It's harder with cats, but promote them as much as you can. Send emails to friends and post on Facebook.

#### **HEALTH AND MEDICAL:**

When you pick up your foster dog you will receive their medical records. Please make a copy for yourself and keep the originals in a safe place as the originals will be provided to the adopter. Please add whatever medical treatments the dog gets into the record so the adopter knows about them.

Most foster animals come from a shelter environment, where he/she could have picked up an illness or parasite. It is ideal to keep the foster animal separate from your animals, but that is hard to do in many households. Please make sure that your pets are up-to-date with their vaccines to protect them, and clean with a 1:30 ratio of bleach to water (4 oz. bleach to 1 gal water). If your dog(s) take heartworm preventatives, they usually prevent the dog from catching most worms.

**A FEW HEALTH ISSUES YOU SHOULD WATCH FOR:** Blood or parasites in stool, blood in urine, no appetite, vomiting, limping, fleas, abdominal sutures that may need to be removed, red or oozing skin lesions, continual coughing or sneezing, and discharge from eyes or nose. **If it is necessary for your dog to see a veterinarian, please call the Foster Support Team or the Foster Coordinator first.** If you do need to take your dog to the vet, take the medical records and ask the vet to add that visit to the record.

Adult animals should be up-to-date with all their vaccines upon arrival and it is the foster's responsibility to ensure they receive any needed vaccines or medications over time. Fosters should check the status of vaccines, heartworm preventive and flea/tick to see when they are due and ask the Foster Support Team for medication as needed. Heartworm positive dogs will typically arrive with doxycycline to be administered on a daily basis for 30 days.

#### **Routine Vaccinations**

- All adult dogs should be current on Rabies and Distemper/Parvo (DHPP or DHLPP) vaccinations. Most will be vaccinated for kennel cough/Bordetella.
- Puppies receive a series of 4 DHPP vaccines every 3-4 weeks until 4 months of age. Puppies are vaccinated at 4 months of age for Rabies.
- Adult cats should be current on Rabies and Distemper (FVRCP) vaccinations.
- Kittens will receive a series of 2-4 FVRCP vaccines until 4 months of age and will be vaccinated for Rabies at 4 months of age.
- Flea/tick prevention and heartworm prevention should be started at 2-3 months of age for puppies and kittens and continued monthly.



## **COMMON MEDICAL ISSUES**

### **Worms/Parasites**

Most of our foster dogs are dewormed when they arrive. Sometimes they need another de-worming in a couple of weeks, so please check their medical records. If you detect worms in your foster's stool, contact the FOSTER SUPPORT TEAM OR FOSTER COORDINATOR to make arrangements for treatment. It's important to note that animals being treated often show dead or dying worms in their stool (tapeworms resemble a grain of rice, and roundworms resemble spaghetti). There's no need to be alarmed.

### **Flea/Tick**

Our foster animals typically receive flea treatments at the originating shelter. Flea treatment should be applied monthly as needed. If you need to purchase this for your foster, receipts can be submitted to Expense Reimbursement Lea for reimbursement.

### **Heartworm**

Dogs older than 6 months will need to be heartworm-tested if they haven't been already at the originating shelter. Dogs should be kept on heartworm preventive year-round. Please check their medical records and provide the next dose of preventive as scheduled. If you see Proheart 6 on their records, this is good for 6 months. Many of the dogs we rescue from southern states are Heartworm positive and this will be noted on their medical records and adoption profile. Wag On Inn will treat heartworm at our expense as outlined in our Heartworm Treatment Protocol. For any question on Heartworm Treatment, contact our Heartworm Coordinator.

### **Spay/Neuter**

If the dog needs to be spayed or neutered, the Spay/Neuter Coordinator will contact you within a week or two of arrival with the date of the spay/neuter appointment. For young puppies, we are typically planning spay/neuter at 4-6 months of age and in most cases, the Spay/Neuter Coordinator will contact the adopter directly to schedule this. Typically Wag On Inn uses the Spay/Neuter Clinic of NJ in Holmdel. The dog should be microchipped during the spay/neuter (remind them!). Puppies 4 months old or younger can get a small breakfast on the morning of their spay/neuter. Puppies over 4 months or adults must be fasted, i.e. no food after 9 pm night prior to surgery.

### **Microchips**

All animals will need microchips if they don't have them already. If your dog/cat is already spayed/neutered, then contact the FOSTER SUPPORT TEAM OR FOSTER COORDINATOR to set up the microchipping, if needed and add their microchip number to the record when they get it. Send the microchip number to the Foster Coordinator so she can enter it into the system in case the dog is lost and found at some future date.

We will take care of registration! The adopter will receive a Welcome e-mail from the Michelson Found Animals Registry within a few weeks of adoption. They will be able to add to, verify or modify the microchip contact information at <https://www.foundanimals.org/microchip-registry/>

### **Heartworm**

If you have agreed to foster a heartworm positive dog thank you! Heartworm has become a sad reality in our lifesaving efforts as an estimated 75-80% of adult dogs in Louisiana and other southern states are heartworm positive. A copy of our Heartworm Protocol will be emailed to you by the Heartworm Coordinator with more detailed instructions but it is important to start/resume your dog's prescription of doxycycline, an oral antibiotic when they arrive. Typically, the pills are included with the medical records. If you are missing your doxycycline please contact the Heartworm Coordinator and we will locate it or get your pup a new prescription.

If you have any medical questions or problems, contact the FOSTER SUPPORT TEAM OR FOSTER COORDINATOR. If you can't reach them, contact any of us. We have volunteers who are experienced with dogs, cats, puppies and kittens who are very willing to help.

### **Partner Veterinarians**

All non-emergency veterinary visits must be authorized by The Foster Support Team or Foster Coordinator prior to making an appointment. We work with the following veterinarians only. If you take your foster animal to another vet or do not call for authorization prior to a visit you will be responsible for payment.

Barnegat Animal Clinic 530 N. Main Street Barnegat, NJ 08009 609-698-2141	Little Silver Animal Hospital 675 Branch Ave, Little Silver, NJ 07739 (732) 842-8266	Shoreside Veterinary Care 182 Bay Ave #1624, Highlands, NJ 07732 (732) 204-2318
Squan Animal Hospital 1427 Lakewood Rd, Manasquan, NJ 08736 (732) 528-9199	Two Rivers Animal Hospital 457 River Rd, Fair Haven, NJ 07704 (732) 747-4011	Purrfurred Veterinary Care 43 Kent Rd, Howell Township, NJ 07731 (732) 813-3100

### **Medical Emergencies**

If you are experiencing a medical emergency please contact the Foster Support Team, Foster Coordinator or Founder and bring foster to:

Red Bank Veterinary Hospital  
197 Hance Ave, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724  
(732) 747-3636

If you are unsure if the condition warrants an emergency visit please contact the Foster Support Team, Foster Coordinator or Founder to discuss.

### **APPLICATIONS & ADOPTION PROCESS:**

Potential adopters submit applications online through our website and the Applications Team screens the applications as they come in. They make sure that the adopter's current animal(s) are well cared for medically, and that the references speak highly of the adopter.

Approved applications for your animal will be sent to you. You should contact the applicant as soon as possible to discuss the animal, to answer any questions they may have, and to schedule a meeting if they are interested and you think it's a good match. A weekend outreach is a good meeting place. Some foster homes have the potential adopters come to their homes. It's up to you.

Even though an application is "approved", it is up to you to determine if this is the right owner for this dog, i.e.; a dog that needs a lot of exercise might not be a good match for a home without a fenced yard, a dog who is not housetrained needs someone around a lot so that he/she can learn, a dog who is very timid might not be happy in a home with very small children, a very lively dog might need another dog to play with, etc. Sometimes we just get a gut feeling that it's not the right home, and that's fine. You can always tell potential adopters that there are multiple applications for the dog, to give yourself a little flexibility in denying them without telling them that you just don't like them! ☺

Please contact every applicant, even if you don't think they're the best match for your foster animal. Let the Applications Team know if it's not a good match and we can hopefully match the applicants to another animal. We try to maintain a positive feeling about Wag On Inn and feel that responsiveness to our potential adopters is very important. Here is a good example of what to say to a new applicant:

*"Hi Tyler,*

*Thank you for your interest in Chance. As I'm sure Nicole has mentioned, Chance arrives on Saturday. I plan on scheduling a call with each applicant this week to chat about your interest in Chance in an effort to determine the best fit for him. If it's ok with you, during that call we can also conduct the FaceTime virtual home/yard tour. I plan on monitoring Chance for a minimum of 24 hours to learn his temperament before selecting his forever home.*

*Please let me know which day this week after 5:30pm works best for a call."*

Wag On Inn Rescue requires a virtual home visit/meet and greet prior to adoption to ensure a home is safe. The virtual home visit can be conducted on Facebook messenger, Facetime, Duo, Skype, Teams – whatever platform the foster and adopter prefer. Ask the potential adopter to show you around the home. Key points to consider:

- Are the front and back doors secured or can they be pushed open by a curious pup?
- Is the yard fenced? If so, ask the adopter to walk around the perimeter of the fence. Are there gaps or holes? Can the dog fit through the bars of the fence if Jerrod style? Is the fence low enough to the ground? High enough for the dog?
- Ask where the animal will sleep, eat and where the crate will be placed. Make sure the adopter has thought about making physical room for the dog in their home.
- Ask where the dog will be kept when they aren't home. The adopter may present key information that would steer foster towards or away from proceeding with adoption. For example, if the adopter says in the yard or on the porch we would no longer want to proceed with this application.
- Is the home safe? Are there potential toxins within reach? Are there piles of junk that might topple over and harm a small dog? Do the windows have screens?

We recommend doing the virtual home check during daylight hours if possible so the foster can more easily see the home and yard. If you need assistance in coordinating a virtual home visit please contact the Foster Coordinator.

If the virtual meeting goes well, you will want to schedule an in-person meeting. If you approve this owner for your foster animal, and they wish to adopt, the adoption contract must be filled out and signed by both the adopter and you.

Wag On Inn Placement Team: The goal of creating the placement team was to have a group that can update a dogs availability (adopted, needs a new foster, available, returned, etc) asap. Please email placement team once you have a pending adoption, an adoption, a return, a foster that needs new placement, etc. The email is: [wag-on-inn-placement-team@googlegroups.com](mailto:wag-on-inn-placement-team@googlegroups.com)

**Adoption contracts:**

- 1) A paper copy can be signed and a check obtained from the adopter. Contract (all 4 pages) and check must be mailed by the foster to the PO Box.
- 2) An electronic copy can be signed and the adoption fee can be paid on PayPal using the link on our website. Email the signed adoption contract (all 4 pages) and proof of payment to [wag-on-inn-placement-team@googlegroups.com](mailto:wag-on-inn-placement-team@googlegroups.com).

Katie Elko is tracking all adoption contracts and fees. She may reach out to you to check on the status of an adoption fee/contract as needed. Please mail them in promptly following adoption!

The original medical goes to the new owner. Take a picture of the adopting family to post on Facebook. If you would like, provide your name and contact information to the adopter so they can send you photos and updates on the animal's progress. Let the placement team know right away to who adopted your foster.

It is very important to keep The Placement Team informed about contacts with applicants, appointments that you've made, and end results with the applicant. This assures that the animal remains networked if still available, or is marked as adoption pending. It also enables the Placement Team to look for an alternative animal for an applicant if yours isn't the right match for them.

Remember our goal is to find a safe and happy home for each of our animals, in the quickest time possible. Animals adjust better when placed in their forever home within a reasonable amount of time. Also, the more animals that get adopted, the more lives we can save!

**Adoption donations** for the dogs and cats are below and are also posted on our website and can be paid by Cash or checks made out to Wag On Inn Rescue.

Puppies - up to a year of age	\$450
Dogs - one to four years of age	\$400
Adult dogs - four to eight years of age	\$300
Mature Dogs - eight to ten years of age	\$250
Seniors - over ten years old	
Donation may vary depending on age and health	\$200
Kittens and Cats	\$75 cat/kittens \$125 for pair

The adoption donation is about the same as other local rescues and shelters. It includes spay/neuter, transport, vetting, vaccines, microchips, and other expenses. Wag On Inn Rescue has very significant medical expenses, animals sometimes arrive sick and sometimes expenses can run into the thousands of dollars. Wag On Inn is a not a for-profit organization, and no one is paid for their efforts.

**MATCH DONATIONS:** Please remind adopters to check with their employers to see if they will match your adoption donation! Please also consider choosing Wag On Inn for your **Amazon Smile** charity and encouraging adopters to do the same.

We all know that it's difficult to let our foster animals go – we cry a little and then look forward to the next life that we can save!

Please contact us at any time if you have a problem, concern or issue. Good luck and many, many thanks for all you do. Have fun!

## **PUPPY INSTRUCTIONS**

**Food:** Puppies eat a lot. Most puppies do not overeat, so feed your pup 3 or 4 meals a day and let him/her eat as much as they want. Feed a good-quality puppy food. If your pup is going in to be spayed/neutered, he/she CAN have breakfast that morning. This is only true for puppies less than 4 months old; not for adult dogs.

**Good things to try to stimulate appetite:** Chicken baby food or moisten dry food with chicken broth. You can use Nutrical paste with chicken to give them extra calories.

### **Life Skills:**

Teach your pup to love its crate. This is a good life skill that will make it much easier for the new owners. You can make the crate a game for the dog, with good things happening when they go into it.

There can be special treats for in the crate, or special toys. Do not keep a puppy in a crate for long periods of time (except overnight). Puppies should get out at least every 3-4 hours when very young, or you will train them to potty in their crate because they have no other choice.

It will be much easier for you if the pup is crated in your bedroom at night rather than in another part of the home. Then he/she will be with the “pack”, and typically won’t complain. When they’re away from the pack, they can be very lonely and often complain a lot! If he/she complains, cover the crate with a sheet. He/she will quiet down. Do not reward complaints by taking the pup out, or you’ll never get any sleep!

It is very important to socialize puppies as much as possible. Take them on outings, for rides in the car, on neighborhood walks, etc. Try to stay away from dog parks or other places where sick dogs might be, but pups can and should play with healthy, vaccinated dogs. Other dogs are very good at telling a puppy when it is misbehaving. Expose your pup to plenty of adults and children. Teach your pup basic commands, if you have the time. “Sit”, “stay”, “come”, “touch” (touching their nose to your hand), and “look” are all good commands for a dog to know. Don’t give them their food or a treat until they sit and are calm. It is great if you can get them accustomed to a leash. Play with your pup’s ears, mouth, and feet, so they are comfortable with being examined.

**Medical:** Let one of us know right away if your pup is lethargic or not eating (note that he/she might not eat much the first day). Also keep an eye out for icky stools and coughing or congestion. Let us know if you see any hair loss as well. Puppies often get worms from their mother. All pups should be wormed. Often one deworming is not enough. Puppies younger than 4 months can get a small breakfast the morning of their spay/neuter. All pups over 4 months (and adults) must be fasted.

### Daily

- ✓ Have fresh water available at all times.
- ✓ Newspaper is not very absorbent; if you are keeping multiple puppies in a pen, we recommend using old towels as a floor cover (with a tarp underneath to protect your flooring). Then just wash the towels regularly. Puppies in a crate need to be watched and let out as soon as they awaken so they get in the habit of pottying outside. You do not want them to learn that it's OK to go potty in their crate.
- ✓ Clean environment with disinfectant.
- ✓ If puppies have fleas/ had fleas, wash their bedding frequently.
- ✓ Inspect the puppies for fleas. Use a flea comb. You can use a bit of Vaseline on the comb to try to catch and trap the fleas. Capstar is a product you can buy at Petco kinds of stores – it kills all fleas within 15 minutes.
- ✓ Observe each puppy to be sure they are eating, drinking and eliminating well. Address issues, and contact us if there is a problem.
- ✓ Play with and love your puppies! They need exercise and socialization. Try to spend as much time as you can with them. They will enjoy it and so will you.

### KITTEN INSTRUCTIONS

*Small kittens are very susceptible to failure. It is important to monitor their fluid intake and their output, and to keep them warm and their environment sanitary.*

**Medical:** Always deworm. Kittens are frequently born with worms from the mother. Recognize the signs of worms: stomach upset, diarrhea, scrawny-skinny bodies. Roundworms may be thrown up. You can worm kittens every two weeks. You will usually not be able to see the worms in the kittens, but assume they have them. It is generally not recommended to wash kittens, but if you do wash the kitten for fleas (use Dawn), make sure you dry the kitten well. Kittens have trouble self-regulating their body heat when they are young. Keep them warm and enclosed in a small, very clean room or crate until they are old enough to explore. Baby gates are useful to keep them contained.

Isolate new kittens coming into your house for 1-2 weeks to protect them from resident cats and to protect your cats from anything they might be carrying. Look for runny eyes, runny noses. If they occur, contact us. Kittens must be 2 lbs. before they are large enough to be neutered by the Spay and Neuter Center. An average kitten gains 4 oz a week. Kittens dehydrate rapidly. If they have loose stools, contact us. Loose, yellow stools may indicate coccidia and require treatment. Stools should be brown and firm. Watery/shooting stools require attention.

Wait until 8 weeks to treat with Frontline Plus or Advantage for fleas. Check their ears. You can wipe out their ears, if they are nasty, with q-tips and ear-cleaning cat/dog liquid or wipes. Often, they have fleas and mites in their ears. When they are tiny kittens, they can't be treated with any miticide, so as much prevention as you can do is good. Once they are in their forever homes, they will be old enough to be treated for this.

**Food:** Always use kitten formulated food. Have fresh water available at all times. Change twice a day or if they get it dirty. Always have dry chicken kitten food available. Use only chicken-based wet food. Wet food can give some kittens diarrhea. If you suspect this, try jarred baby food or moisten the dry food for them. Experiment with different combinations. Authority (PetSmart) makes a wet kitten food that is chicken and lamb and works well. Also Science Diet minced chicken kitten food is good. Kittens will react to any change in their diet. Take it slow. Do not feed kittens fish or beef. This causes stomach upset and diarrhea. Don't give them kitty treats unless they are thriving. No milk products except for Kitty Glop (see below) if necessary. Cats cannot digest cow milk. Serve all wet foods on a flat plate or dish so kittens can have access to it. They have short necks!

Good things to try to stimulate appetite: Chicken baby food (Beech Nut is usually cheaper than Gerber's). Hold off on the Turkey variety of this until they are established. Turkey is harder to digest than chicken.

Kitten "glop" – (Google this). It's very good for scrawny kittens. It is a high-calorie mixture of Goats milk or evaporated milk mixed with a variety of things. Breeders use it.

Moisten dry food with chicken broth.

You can use Nutrical paste with jarred chicken to give them extra calories.

**Daily:**

- ✓ Clean environment with disinfectant, sweep scattered litter.
- ✓ If kittens have fleas/ had fleas, wash their bedding frequently.
- ✓ Inspect kittens for fleas. Use a flea comb. You can use a bit of Vaseline on the comb to try to catch and trap the fleas.
- ✓ Observe each kitten to be sure they are eating, drinking and eliminating well. Address issues, and contact us if there is a problem.
- ✓ Clean litter box twice a day. Do not cross-contaminate litter boxes in your home by using the same scoop with your resident cats. Change litter box after deworming. Add new litter daily.
- ✓ Play with and love your kitties! They need socialization. Try to spend as much time as you can with them. They will enjoy it and so will you.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**How long are dogs in foster homes?** It completely depends on the dog and the situation. The average stay in a foster home ranges from about 2 weeks to 2 months, however, most puppies and some dogs with great photos and stories may stay only a few days. Dogs recovering from an injury, certain breeds, and senior dogs may stay much longer.

**Can I adopt my foster dog?** YES! Foster parents have first choice to adopt their foster dog.

**How can I help my foster dog find a great home?** Photos and stories of all adoptable dogs are posted on our website, social media and various pet adoption sites such as Petfinder.com. As you get to know your foster dog, we ask that you stay in contact with the Website Coordinator so that he/she can update the foster animal's biography online to reflect accurate information about the dog's preferences and quirks. We also welcome any quality photos and videos that you take of your foster dog in your home. Foster dogs are also promoted at adoption outreaches and special events throughout the year. In addition, we have "Adopt Me" bandannas that can increase the chances of your foster dog finding a home. Simply tie the bandanna around your dog's neck before a walk, and everyone who sees him will know he's looking for a home.

**If I have my own animals, can I foster dogs?** Yes. Your animals must be kept up to date on all required vaccinations. Keep in mind that it's always a health risk to expose your animal to other animals, whether it's walking at parks, vet waiting rooms or other common animal areas. The health risk is minimal if your animals are current on their vaccinations, maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle, and are not elderly or very young.

**Do I have to crate-train my foster dog?** No, but it is one of the most efficient and effective ways to house train a puppy or retrain an adult dog. Some dogs do not like crates, and most dogs need to be transitioned or "trained" to use a crate, so it's up to the foster parent to decide whether to crate or not. Putting the dog in a crate while you are gone will give you peace of mind knowing that they are in a safe place, away from harm, and not doing any damage to your belongings or themselves. For many dogs, a crate can also represent a safe and comfortable



place to call their own and provides them with a sense of security. Dogs actually like having a “den” to cuddle up in. Crating should never be used as punishment.

**Do I need to have prior medical knowledge or expertise?** No, but you may be asked to dispense medicine to your foster dog so you will have to be comfortable following a veterinarian’s instructions if fostering a sick or injured dog.

**What if my foster dog becomes sick?** Veterinary costs are paid for by WOI. If a foster dog becomes sick, foster parents must contact the Foster Support Team or Foster Coordinator to authorize a vet visit, or advise you otherwise. Once a veterinary visit has been authorized, you can make an appointment with one of our preferred veterinarians. These veterinarians bill WOI directly, so there is no cost to foster parents. If you visit a vet that is not on the list, you will not be reimbursed for the cost. If you have any general questions regarding the health of your foster dog, contact the Foster Support Team or Foster Coordinator.

**Can I take my foster dog to an off-leash dog park for exercise and socialization?** No, dogs must be kept on leash at all times. There are far too many unknowns for it to be a safe and healthy experience for a foster dog.

**Am I responsible for finding my foster dog its forever home?** No, but we do need your help. Once a qualified applicant is identified, you will be asked to schedule a meet and greet with your foster dog and the potential adopter. Your quick response is critical to finding a great match. Many times, a foster parent will find a perfect match through their own network of friends, family and colleagues. We greatly welcome these referrals! If you think you have found a perfect forever home for your foster dog, remember they still must go through the application process and be approved by WOI.

**Can I return my foster dog if I am unable to foster any longer?** We prefer that foster parents continue to foster until the dog finds a permanent home. It can be very stressful for a dog to be moved to another foster. However, we understand that situations change and it may become necessary to transfer a foster dog. We request that a foster parent provides as much notice as possible so that we can find an alternative foster home to transfer the dog to.

**What if I go on vacation or have a business trip?** If given enough notice, we can usually find volunteers that can foster sit for short durations. We ask that foster parents always keep the Foster Coordinator aware of any temporary foster sitting situations.

**Will it be hard to say goodbye to my foster dog?** Saying goodbye can be the most difficult part of fostering, but keep in mind that many more dogs need wonderful foster homes like yours. Remember, you are playing a crucial role in helping to save lives.

#### **Attachments to Foster Guide:**

Adoption contract

Surrender form

Heartworm protocol

Welcome Letter



Wag On Inn Rescue  
P.O. Box 221 Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
732 713-5107/[wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com)  
**Adoption Contract - Summary**

**Adoption Requirements:**

1. **Adopted dogs must remain on a leash at all times when outside of the house for the first two (2) weeks following adoption even in a fenced yard until the animal is familiar with you and will come when called.** After the initial two (2) week probationary period, the dog must be contained in a secure fenced yard, house or on a leash. He/she should not be allowed to roam loose. All cats must be kept indoors only.
2. **Caution must be exercised when entering/exiting doors and vehicles with your newly adopted pet.** The first week to two (2) week period is when most dogs go missing from adoptive homes. A harness or crate must be used to secure your dog when riding in a vehicle per NJ State Law.
3. **You must take this animal to the vet once a year for a checkup and to update shots.** Dogs should remain on a heartworm preventative as per your vet's advice. Although your animal has had some shots, it is recommended that you take him/her to the vet at your earliest convenience for a "wellness checkup" (within 2 weeks). This way your vet can meet your new dog or cat and assess its health. Remember to bring a stool sample with you to this visit.
4. If your adopted dog is from a state other than NJ, it is recommended that you have your dog re-tested for Heartworm 6-8 months after adoption even if he/she is on heartworm preventative. Due to the lifecycle of heartworms it is possible to test negative for heartworms even if they tested negative previously.
5. If, for any reason, you are unable to keep this animal, you must first contact Wag On Inn Rescue at: [Wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:Wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com). Wag On Inn Rescue has right of first refusal before you attempt to rehome this animal yourself.
6. This animal must be supervised around strangers and children at all times.
7. If this animal becomes lost, you are to notify Wag On Inn Rescue right away.
8. NO cat shall be declawed at any time.
9. Prong collars or choke collars may not be used for dogs.
10. **Wag On Inn will register your animal's microchip for you.** You should receive a welcome letter from found.org within a month. Feel free to add to, verify or modify the microchip contact information at <https://www.foundanimals.org/microchip-registry/> once you have received the welcome letter.

\*Any violation of the above may void the adoption contract and result in the dog being returned to Wag On Inn Rescue.

**Suggestions for Successful Pet Ownership:**

1. We strongly recommend using a crate for dogs. This will keep the dog safe when you are not around to watch him/her. It will help with housebreaking, and will provide a safe haven for the dog. A dog should NOT be crated for longer than 8 hours without a chance to get out and stretch its legs. Puppies should not be crated for more than 4 hours.
2. We recommend a Kong or similar toy that can be stuffed with peanut butter, cheese, dog food, biscuits or anything else you can think of. It will keep your new pet busy in a positive way.
3. We have been feeding \_\_\_\_\_ food. Feel free to change to another brand, but do it slowly, and stick with a "premium" brand. Drastic changes in food will lead to an upset stomach.
4. Take good care of your animal and contact us if you experience any type of problem. We may be able to help you to alleviate the problem before it becomes a bad habit.

Wag On Inn Rescue  
P.O. Box 221 Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
732 713-5107/[wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com)

Date entered WOI: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Microchip Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear potential adopter,

Thank you for showing interest in one of our rescue dogs or cats. Before signing the attached contract, remember the following. The adoption of a dog or cat is a big step. You must be sure that you have the patience and understanding to undertake this commitment. We hope we have taken steps to give you a dog or cat that is safe and healthy. We cannot, however, guarantee a dog's or cat's behavior in any respect. Dogs and cats are sometimes unpredictable. They can sometimes become aggressive or poorly behaved for no apparent reason. While we take steps to reduce that chance, we can never assure you that aggressive behavior will not take place.

Once this dog or cat leaves our hands, we cannot be responsible for its behavior. That responsibility falls to you. You should know this before you adopt this or any dog or cat. Your behavior will affect this animal more than anything else. Your dog or cat will also need patience, proper veterinarian care, proper feeding and diet, etc... If this is a puppy or kitten, it will need booster vaccines, at your expense, until at least 4 months of age or per your veterinarian's advice.

We are not responsible for any dog or cat's history. While we will attempt to give you as accurate a history of the dog or cat as we can, we cannot and do not guarantee that the information provided is correct and/or accurate. We cannot guarantee how your dog or cat will react to people or other animals. We also cannot be responsible for any injuries caused by the dog or cat you adopt. The responsibility to keep your dog or cat under control and safe and to keep others from harm is yours. While we take steps to try to give you a healthy dog or cat, and will allow you to have the dog undergo a health exam before your adoption is finalized, at your request and expense, we cannot guarantee or warranty your dog's or cat's health. If at any time Wag On Inn Rescue feels this animal is not being treated correctly for any reason, we reserve the right to reclaim this animal and place it in a more suitable environment.

Adopting a dog or cat is a large responsibility with great rewards both for you and the animal. We hope you have a happy, rewarding and healthy life together.

**You will be considered a foster-to-adopt until this animal completes any scheduled medical requirements as noted below which may include spay/neuter, heartworm treatment etc.**

---

Very truly yours,  
Wag On Inn Rescue

**I have read and understand the above information.**

**Adopter's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Wag On Inn Rescue  
P.O. Box 221 Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
732 713-5107/[wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com)  
**WAG ON INN RESCUE ADOPTION CONTRACT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, adopt this animal, \_\_\_\_\_,  
and release the adoption agency and others associated with this adoption, from any and all claims for personal injury and/or property damage that may be caused by the above animal, to me or to others. The welfare of this animal will be my sole responsibility. I AM NOT ADOPTING THIS ANIMAL FOR ANOTHER PERSON. This animal will not be used for breeding, or for medical or experimental purposes. I understand that in the event I give false information or do not follow the terms of this contract, the adoption agency may remove this animal from my household and start legal proceedings against me at my expense and may assess damages in the amount of \$2,000.00 against me.

1. **HEALTH:** After adoption, this animal's health becomes my full responsibility. I will provide necessary veterinary care upon sickness, disease or injury. I will watch for any signs of illness in case this animal is harboring a disease. In addition, this animal will be placed on an inoculation program as prescribed by a licensed veterinarian in order to assure and maintain its health. This animal will receive a rabies vaccination and be licensed in accordance with state and local ordinances. Although this animal has had some shots, I will take it to my vet for a wellness checkup, within two weeks of adoption.

If, for any reason, this animal could not be spayed/neutered, complete its heartworm treatment, or complete any other required medical treatment prior to me bringing him/her home, I will be considered a foster parent until completed. If I have the procedure done at my vet prior to that date, I will let Wag On Inn Rescue know prior to the date listed above and send written proof of the procedure to Wag On Inn Rescue within 10 days of completion. Once the medical treatment is complete and the adoption fee paid, my "foster" status will change to "Adopted".

2. **CONTROL:** For dog adoptions, I will keep this animal in a private residence only. The dog will be kept on a leash or in a fenced yard. The dog will be on leash when not within the boundaries of my property. I will keep an ID tag on this dog at all times and will telephone the adoption agency and the police immediately if this animal becomes lost.

For cat adoptions, I will keep this cat on my premises at all times, and preferably inside my home, at all times. The cat will be inside the home every night. I will have ID tags on my cat and will telephone the adoption agency and the police immediately if this animal becomes lost.

3. **TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP:** If I can no longer keep this animal, I must telephone or email Wag on Inn Rescue before I place him/her elsewhere. I will never abandon this animal or give him/her to a shelter or to another person without first contacting Wag On Inn Rescue. Wag On Inn Rescue has the right of first refusal before I attempt to rehome this animal myself. I will ensure that this animal is never sold, given up for experimentation, or exchanged in any form. If Wag On Inn determines they are able to take this animal back into their care, I will abide by the terms of this contract and allow the adoption agency sufficient time (up to 30 days) to arrange for re-adoption or foster care.

Wag On Inn Rescue  
P.O. Box 221 Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
732 713-5107/[wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com)

4. **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS:** I understand that I may be contacted for further verification of the animal's welfare, and will cooperate by providing whatever information is requested, which could include a visit to my home by the adoption agency. Wag On Inn Rescue reserves the right to investigate the living conditions of any animal adopted and may remove any animal being kept in conditions that violate the requirements in this contract.
5. I do not hold Wag On Inn Rescue responsible for errors in the information provided to me about this animal. Further, I understand and agree that a representative, as an individual and Wag On Inn Rescue, CANNOT GUARANTEE THE HEALTH, TEMPERAMENT, TRAINING OR SUITABILITY of this animal for any particular purpose. They also CANNOT GUARANTEE HOW THE DOG OR CAT WILL REACT TO PEOPLE OR OTHER ANIMALS. The undersigned adopter does hereby release and covenant to hold harmless Wag On Inn Rescue, its members and its officers, and indemnify them from any claims, damages, costs or actions incurred as a result of the adoption or caused by the actions of the animal transferred herein. I accept all responsibility and liability for the animal as of the date of the adoption.
6. I understand that the donation made as part of this contract is a gift and not a payment for a value received. This donation is not refundable. **\*\*PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR EMPLOYER TO SEE IF YOUR DONATION MAY QUALIFY FOR A MATCHING GIFT. Many companies will match employee donations to a 501(c)3 charity.\*\***

Amount of donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopter's Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Adopter's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopter's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopter's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopter's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer's Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**KEEP THIS CONTRACT WITH YOUR ANIMAL'S MEDICAL RECORDS**

Wag On Inn Rescue  
P.O. Box 221  
Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
website: [wagoninn.rescuegroups.org](http://wagoninn.rescuegroups.org)

E-mail - Kathy  
[Wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:Wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com)  
Phone - Michele  
732-713-5107

Join us on Facebook: Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue (public group) and Instagram

Wag On Inn Rescue  
Animal Surrender Form  
Surrender Fee: \$150/animal

I, \_\_\_\_\_, by signing this form, state that I am the rightful owner/keeper/caretaker/custodian of the animal who is the subject of this surrender form. To my knowledge, no other person has any right of property to this animal. I also hereby certify that this animal has not bitten a human or another animal within the last 10 days. I hereby surrender all rights to the animal to Wag On Inn Rescue. I understand that once I relinquish the animal, the animal will not be available to be returned. I hereby forever release, discharge and agree to hold harmless and indemnify Wag On Inn Rescue and its members from all claims, demands, actions, causes of action or liability of any kind whatsoever arriving as a result of or in connection to the adoption or other disposition of the animal.

Owner information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Years owned: \_\_\_\_\_ Last vaccines/vet exam: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe why you are surrendering animal: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

## WAG ON INN RESCUE HEARTWORM TREATMENT STATUS & PROTOCOL

Thank you for fostering for/adopting from Wag On Inn!

As you know, your dog tested positive for heartworms. Wag On Inn follows a specific protocol for treating heartworms, which is outlined below.

Your dog: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Received 30 days of Doxycycline \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Has received/will receive 2 injections of heartworm-killing drugs on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Has completed one month of restricted activity beginning \_\_\_\_\_.

It is very important to continue giving heartworm preventative as scheduled. You will need a prescription from your vet.

Your dog's next treatment is due: \_\_\_\_\_.

### HEARTWORM TREATMENT PROTOCOL

#### STEP 1 // Pre-Treatment

***Doxycycline:*** After diagnosis, heartworm positive dogs are prescribed Doxycycline, an oral tablet, for 30 days. This medication helps kills the bacteria that protect the actual heartworm and makes it easier for the injection to kill the heartworm parasite. Usually the Doxy will be started by our rescue partner in Louisiana or North Carolina, so you will receive the remainder of the prescription with instructions on when to give it (usually 2x a day). It is advised to avoid dairy with doxycycline.

***Heartworm preventive:*** Heartworm positive dogs are also placed on heartworm preventive to kill the larvae stage of heartworm and ensure they do not grow into adults. **It is very important to continue your dog on heartworm preventive as scheduled throughout treatment and for the rest of his/her life** so be sure to check their medical records and see when the last dose was given. Some of our rescue partners use Proheart 6 which is good for 6 months. If your dog was not given Proheart and is on a monthly preventive, you will need to obtain a prescription from your vet.

#### STEP 2 // Treatment

Heartworm treatment consists of a series of two injections administered soon after completion of the Doxycycline, ideally within 2-3 weeks. The two injections which kill the adult heartworms will be administered 24-36 hours apart. **Following the injections, the dog must remain on strict rest for 1 month.**

If the injections have not been done at the originating shelter, a WOI volunteer will schedule an appointment for your dog with our veterinarian. At this time, we work with only one vet for heartworm treatment, Dr. Glenn Behan at Barnegat Animal Clinic. Dr. Behan is working on this as a special project and is graciously providing this treatment essentially at cost. The majority of our dogs are Asymptomatic (meaning they do not show any evidence of heartworm infection), therefore, we are controlling costs by skipping the x-ray as the x-ray results would not change the protocol. We are also generally avoiding hospitalization costs by sending the dogs home with loving foster families or adopters that take excellent care of their patients. If there are any complications the dogs can stay overnight.

*Dr. Behan may make changes to this protocol as needed for the medical well-being of the dog.*

All appointments for heartworm injections will be with Dr. Glenn Behan at:  
**Barnegat Animal Clinic - 530 N. Main Street, Barnegat, NJ 08005**

As noted, a WOI volunteer will contact you to coordinate treatment. Please do not call Barnegat directly to schedule or change your dog's appointment or you will be held responsible for payment.

### **STEP 3 // Rest Period**

After the injections, the adult heartworms start to die within a couple of days. You must restrict your dog's activity by using leash walks and crating if needed. Dr. Behan generally says as long as the dogs aren't running on the beach we are good. We advise no running, jumping or vigorous play with other dogs for approximately 1 month after treatment.

**Side effects** can include injection site pain (hips) for a day or two and some nausea/lethargy for the first few hours after the injection. Most dogs are back to normal by day 3 post-treatment.

### **STEP 4 // Post-Rest Period**

When the 1 month rest period is completed, gradual return to normal exercise is recommended. Increasing intensity and duration of activity over several weeks is the most effective way to ensure the dog does not overdo it right away.

### **STEP 5 // Follow- up**

Dr. Behan advises that dogs be retested 1 year after treatment. Testing sooner often results in false positives. Adopters are responsible for this follow-up test as a part of the normal course of care. In some cases, the dog may still test positive due to a lingering heartworm that was not killed by the injection or the heartworm preventive. If your dog tests positive, please contact Wag On Inn to make an appointment with Dr. Behan to determine the recommended course of treatment. If an adopter chooses to address this with their own vet or with Barnegat Animal Clinic directly, it will be at their expense.

**For additional questions about heartworm, Wag On Inn Rescue's treatment protocol, or a specific heartworm positive dog, please contact:**

Liza Grier, Heartworm Coordinator [liza.grier@gmail.com](mailto:liza.grier@gmail.com)

Amanda Jagger, Foster Coordinator [amandajagger13@gmail.com](mailto:amandajagger13@gmail.com)



Welcome to the Wag On Inn Family! Thank you for choosing to adopt!  
Here are some reminders about your new dog!

**SAFETY:** All newly adopted dogs should be kept on leash at all times when outside of the house (sometimes inside too) until they are familiar with you and will come when called. Even in a fenced yard! Be cautious entering/exiting cars and vehicles as your newly adopted dog may try to slip out. All this change is hard on them.

**MEDICAL:** Pups will arrive a little stinky from transport but if they were just fixed you cannot get the incision wet so you would be doing more of a sponge bath. The date of surgery will be on the medical records. Also, even though they are dewormed, we are seeing lots of tapeworm lately, probably due to the lifecycle of the worm. It may be necessary to deworm several times to fully clear the infection.

**HEARTWORM PREVENTION:** It is very important that you get your dog started on heartworm prevention in a timely manner. The date of the last dose of heartworm preventative will be on their medical records - bring this to your vet and be sure to get a prescription for heartworm prevention - typically Heartgard or Interceptor. Due to the life cycle and prevalence of Heartworm in the south it is imperative to start the preventative soon just in case they were exposed recently from a mosquito bite. Even our heartworm positive dogs who have treatment planned should be maintained on a preventative to keep their infection minimal. Heartworm preventatives kill the larvae stage of the heartworm before they grow into the worm that causes damage. If you see PROHEART on the medical records, that is a new heartworm prevention injection that lasts 6 months so they will not need Heartgard or Interceptor until after the 6 months has passed. If your dog is heartworm positive, you will be sent our heartworm treatment protocol shortly and appointments will be set up for treatment with our vet.

**MICROCHIPS:** We will take care of registration! You will receive a Welcome e-mail from the Michelson Found Animals Registry within the next few weeks. Feel free to register or modify the microchip information at <https://www.foundanimals.org/microchip-registry/> if you prefer to do so directly.

**MATCH DONATIONS:** Please check with your employer to see if they will match your adoption donation! Wag on Inn Rescue is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. WOI will submit your adoption to PetSmart so that we can receive a donation for every 100 adoptions. PetSmart will mail or email you coupons in return. Please also consider choosing Wag On Inn for your Amazon Smile charity!

Sincerely,  
Wag On Inn Rescue

Questions?  
Medical – Wendy 732-618-4285 or Amanda 732-300-6175  
Heartworm treatment specific – Kathy @ KathyWOIfoster@gmail.com  
General/fundraising/donations – Michele 732-713-5107  
Training – Sarah 732-546-8190

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🐾 [wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com](mailto:wagoninnrescue@yahoo.com) 🐾 732-713-5107 🐾 Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue group on Facebook 🐾



## The 3 Days, 3 Weeks, 3 Month Rule of Adopting a Rescue Dog

The 3-3-3 rule is a general guideline, every dog is unique and will adjust differently. Give your dog space and allow him to go at his own pace.

### 3D



#### In the first 3 days,

- ☐ Feeling overwhelmed
- ☐ May be scared and unsure of what is going on
- ☐ Not comfortable enough to be "himself"
- ☐ May not want to eat or drink
- ☐ Shut down and want to curl up in his crate or hide under a table
- ☐ Testing the boundaries

### 3W



#### After 3 weeks,

- ☐ Starting to settle in
- ☐ Feeling more comfortable
- ☐ Realizing this could possibly be his forever home
- ☐ Figured out his environment
- ☐ Getting into a routine
- ☐ Lets his guard down and may start showing his true personality
- ☐ Behavior issues may start showing up

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### 3M



#### After 3 months,

- ☐ Finally completely comfortable in his home.
- ☐ Building trust and a true bond
- ☐ Gained a complete sense of security with his new family
- ☐ Set in a routine



## The 3 Days, 3 Weeks, 3 Month Rule

### In the first 3 days,

your new dog will be overwhelmed with his new surroundings. He will not be comfortable enough to be himself. Don't be alarmed if he doesn't want to eat for the first couple of days, many dogs don't eat when they are stressed. He may shut down and want to curl up in his crate or under the table. He may be scared and unsure what is going on. Or he may be the opposite and test you to see what he can get away with, kind of like a teenager.

### After 3 weeks,

he's starting to settle in, feeling more comfortable, and realizing this really may be his forever home. He has figured out his environment and getting into the routine that you have set. He lets his guard down and may start showing his real personality. Behavior issues may start showing, this is your time to be a strong pack leader and show him what is right and wrong.

### After 3 months,

your dog is now completely comfortable in his home. You have built trust and a true bond with your dog, which gives him a complete sense of security with you. He is set in his routine and will come to expect his dinner at his usual time.

Get More Great Adopting, Loving, and Training Information at [www.RescueDogs101.com](http://www.RescueDogs101.com)

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